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The Church Of Christ Is Distinctive

Wyatt Sawyer

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THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS DISTINCTIVE

Eph. 1:3-12

- INT: C. of C. born on day of Pentecost, in Jer. A. D. 33,
50 days following the Resurrection of our Lord.
BORN: into world of gross ignorance, sin, paganism, *Jo.*
and Jewish religious corruption. Matt. 15:8-9. *21:13*
CHURCH called Hidden Treasure (worth all!) Matt. 13:44,
Great Pearl (worth all!) Matt. 13:45-46. 6:33 !
WHY? Different! Distinctive! Unique and Better than
anything else on earth. HOW DISTINCTIVE????

Pressures: Conform to world - culture - changes!

I. DISTINCTIVE IN ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SCRIPTURES.

- A. Loved and revered O. T. in its place. For JEWs!!!
1. Heb. 1:1. II Pet. 1:21. Romans 15:4.
B. Loved and revered N. T. in its place. For ALL today.
1. Heb. 1:2. Matt. 28:18-20. John 20:30-31.
2. Sole authority in matters of Faith and Morals.
a. Gal. 1:8-9. Jas. 1:25. II Tim. 3:16-17.

WORLD TODAY needs to love and benefit from God's Word!!

New give Bible its proper place.

II. DISTINCTIVE IN ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD JESUS.

- A. Believed in His divine nature. Matthew. (1:18-25)
B. Believed in His divine ability. John (20:30-31.) *3:2.*
C. Believed in His divine mission. John (18:37, 3:16-17.)
D. Believed in His divine spirit. Luke (24:43)

WORLD TODAY needs to Believe as early Christians did,
and obey-at all costs-as so many of them did.

Too few - Totally Dedicated to Jesus. Statistics!

III. DISTINCTIVE IN ITS ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE CHURCH.

- A. Easier for them in a way: The ONE church against
Jewish traditionalism, Roman paganism and general
World-wide atheism. NOT a divided Christendom!!! ?
B. TODAY it is different! 300 divisions. Where the ONE
1. Impossible to duplicate! *xx* God doesn't agree.
a. Luke 8:11. Plant same seed, get same plant.
Ill. Grain stored in Egypt 1718 B. C. found
in 1880s, planted. Grew wheat then & NOW!!!

2. Too much time has elapsed! God doesn't agree.

- a. Rom. 1:16. Mk. 16:15-16. What made Christians
then will make Christians now. Same church!

- b. Rule book same now as then, game the same!!

Ill. 1943 book on Football: how to play it! is
lost. Found A. D. 2,000. *2073* Game ceased.
If follow rule book could reinstate the
game as in 1967.

WORLD TODAY: needs to go back to God's Rule Book-Bible!

Eph.
5:19
WORSHIP
ACTS 2:42

W H 11-19-67

SS 9-26-71

West Plains, Mo. 10-8-71 1/3

INV: MEMBERS OF THE DISTINCTIVE CHURCH ARE DISTINCTIVE PEOPLE. Why?

- | | | |
|--|----------------|---|
| 1. Distinctive faith ^{MIND.} | Phil. 2:5. | Faith. |
| 2. Distinctive heart. | Matt. 16:16. | Do. Trust. |
| 3. Distinctive tongue. | Acts 2:38. | acclaim. |
| 4. Distinctive will. | Matt. 10:32. | Surrender |
| 5. Distinctive life. | Acts 22:16. | The best! |
| | Romans 12:1-2. | Living expression of Jesus; greatest proof of His identity! |

Invite you to be a
superior person in the
distinctive Church of
Christ - read about in
the Bible!!

1. What SAVED men ^{then,} saves man now.
2. What put a man into Church then —
3. What made him a MEMBER then —
4. The same INVITATION that was extended then, is the Inv. that is extended now to you.

Memphis - Woodale: 10-9-73

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P1:2